

WORKBOOK LISTENING SCRIPTS

UNIT 1

 Page 9, Exercise 2

- Interviewer:** You are both studying several languages at school, including English. Sean, perhaps you can tell me why you think it's important to know other languages?
- Sean:** I think my interest in foreign languages mostly has to do with the career I'm thinking about. Nowadays, knowing more than one language can facilitate getting a job – it might just be what gives you an advantage over other job applicants.
- Interviewer:** And you, Lucy?
- Lucy:** It's an interesting question. I'm studying languages mostly because I want to learn about the traditions and the way of life in other countries. I haven't been abroad yet, but I dream of visiting and maybe even spending a year or so in another country. Also, I've got cousins in Greece, and I'd really love to be able to communicate with them in their own language.
- Interviewer:** Well – family in Greece! Do you use the Internet to keep in touch with them?
- Lucy:** Absolutely! Even though I've actually only met them a few times, the Internet has made it possible for us to be quite close. We share photos and keep up with what's happening several times a week.
- Interviewer:** Sean, what do you use the Internet for?
- Sean:** I haven't got any family or friends abroad, but I do use it to keep up to date with everyone I know here and get updates about world events. And of course, I can't imagine doing any research project for school without it.
- Interviewer:** Sean, where would you like to live?
- Sean:** Me? I'm definitely not looking for a tranquil place in the middle of nowhere – that's where I live now – but it's not my dream home. I suppose if I had a choice, I'd like to live in a place where there's a lot going on – you know what I mean – lots of good pubs and clubs where my friends and I can hang out. And I'd want everything to be within walking distance of my home too.
- Interviewer:** Where would you like to live, Lucy?
- Lucy:** Actually, I'd also like to live in a place where you don't need a car to get around. I live in a big city, but my dream would be a small quiet village where everyone knows each other.
- Interviewer:** I've got one last question for you both. Sean, first. Have you thought about what work you'd like to do in the future?

- Sean:** My father's a lawyer and I've always been interested in following in his footsteps. I'd get bored doing the same thing day in, day out, but my dad does something new and exciting every day – and that really appeals to me.
- Interviewer:** Lucy, do you know what you want to do when you leave school?
- Lucy:** I don't think anyone wants a boring job. I would certainly prefer a job that engages me and keeps me interested. But I'd rather find my excitement and variety as a doctor. I know it's a lot of years of studying, but it's what I've always dreamed of doing.

UNIT 1

 Page 9, Exercise 3

- Interviewer:** What would you say is the best thing about where you live?
- Student:** That's an interesting question – I'll have to think about the answer. Let's see, I live quite far out of the city, so we have plenty of green spaces, which I love. Still, if I had a choice, I'd prefer to live somewhere with lots of parks but with regular buses and trains too.
- Interviewer:** How useful is the Internet to you when you communicate with people who don't live near you?
- Student:** I'm afraid I didn't catch what you said. I'm sorry, could you repeat the question, please?
- Interviewer:** Certainly, do you use the Internet a lot when communicating with people?
- Student:** I'm not sure how to answer that because it depends on whether you count mobile networks as Internet. The fact is I use mobile networks for all kinds of communication – from talking to chats to sharing things like photos.
- Interviewer:** And what about work – what kind of job do you see yourself doing?
- Student:** It's hard to say because it's in the future and I haven't really given it much thought yet. But I think I'd prefer working in my own country and probably something with flexible working hours too.

UNIT 2

 Page 17, Exercises 3 and 4

Well, in both pictures A and C you see people who are thinking of making a purchase of some kind. Another similarity is that one person in each of the photographs seems to be recommending the item to the other person. As I see it, though, there are clear differences too, mainly in the relationship between the people we see in the photographs. In picture A, the two people look like they

could be good friends, or even a couple, while in picture C, we see clearly a salesperson and a potential customer. Basically, I think a salesperson is less effective than a friend when it comes to influencing me to buy something, and frankly salespeople have a minimal impact on my decision to buy. If you ask me, they won't be as honest as someone you're close to because their job is to sell. Clearly, little thought is given to being sincere, which also means they often push you to make a purchase. Personally, I think using aggressive selling techniques is a less effective way of selling and actually has a negative effect on me. On the other hand, a friend or someone you're close to usually makes an effort to take your best interests into account, so you can trust them to be honest about what they're recommending. Another advantage of listening to someone you know is they will often be recommending something they have tried themselves, so they are talking from first-hand experience. Of course, you have to remember they aren't giving you professional advice about what to buy – it's just their personal opinion. But I still think a friend's recommendation would influence me more.

UNIT 3

Page 25, Exercise 4

Living in the world today is like being part of the global village, with people from all over interacting with each other online and through travel. Living with local people in a foreign country develops your ability to interact with others, particularly people from other countries. Also, many people want to learn an additional language or improve foreign language skills that they already have, and going on an exchange programme will give them the opportunity to practise these skills in real-life situations, and not just in the classroom.

UNIT 3

Page 25, Exercise 5

What makes people want to go on exchange student programmes? That's an interesting question. People who go on exchange programmes probably do it for a variety of reasons. The first reason that comes to mind is learning about different cultures. Living in the world today is like being part of the global village, with people from all over interacting with each other online and through travel. Living with local people in a foreign country develops your ability to interact with others, particularly people from other countries. Also, many people want to learn an additional language or improve foreign language skills that they already have, and going on an exchange programme will give them the opportunity to practise these skills in real-life situations, and not just in the classroom. After I went to France as an exchange student, I was put in the advanced French class at school because my French had improved so much.

The second reason is that exchange programmes offer a great opportunity for personal development. For many students, it's the first time they are living away from home, and this can be a real challenge. You aren't staying with your family, who know you. You have to adapt to other people and their ways. I remember how hard I found being

away from home and out on my own at first, but by the end of my stay, I felt really at ease with people and could even talk to strangers – which was something I'd never been able to do before. So I can say from personal experience that being an exchange student definitely increased my self-confidence.

And last but not least, there's the benefit that comes with having been an exchange student when you apply to university or look for a job. Our world today is extremely competitive, and the fact that you were an exchange student looks good on your CV and gives you an edge over other candidates who might be trying for the same place at university or the same job as you. So, all things considered, I think people go on exchange programmes because it is an enriching experience and it not only leads to personal growth but will probably help open doors for future opportunities. Plus the fact that you can meet lots of interesting people from other countries, and some of them can become lifelong friends.

UNIT 4

Page 33, Exercises 2 and 3

Student A: Shall we start with bookshops? I think the atmosphere in bookshops will always attract people who are looking for a bit of peace and quiet.

Student B: That's just what I was thinking. For instance, take a noisy city street – if you're looking for an escape, there's no better place than a quiet bookshop.

Student A: That's true. And lots of people, like me, go to bookshops because they just enjoy browsing through the books on the shelves.

Student B: Oh, yes. I'm with you on that. And what about bowling alleys? They offer a great way to deal with stress and aggression. For one thing, just the strength and effort you need to lift and roll that heavy ball helps release energy. For another, the crash of the ball hitting the pins is almost as satisfying as throwing a plate at a wall. Would you go along with that?

Student A: Not necessarily. Some people might argue that rather than being a way to let off steam, bowling appeals to people because it demands focus and concentration.

UNIT 4

Page 33, Exercise 5

Student A: So, which two would benefit the community the most? It's not an easy choice, but I think I'd go with the amphitheatre and the swimming pool. They'd bring the most enjoyment to the largest number of people.

Student B: I agree. And another point in their favour is that with an amphitheatre and a pool, the community would have a venue for cultural events and a facility where people could get some physical exercise.

Student A: But what about the issue of cost? You mentioned that costly tickets for amphi-events might be a drawback. Pool membership can be expensive too.

Student B: I've thought of a way around it. There could be special rates for residents.

Student A: Great – so we've decided then.

UNIT 5

Page 41, Exercise 2

In picture A, the boy looks like a talented musician. If a person is born with an innate talent for music, then it's important to develop it. From looking at the picture, I get the sense that this boy might also be shy or reserved and may have difficulty making friends. That's another good reason to study music because, as the picture shows, playing in an orchestra is a good opportunity to be an integral part of a group of musicians who have a lot in common. Playing a musical instrument can also help people relax, and it's a great way to relieve stress. Also, if you are considered to be a successful and talented musician, you can gain status and respect.

UNIT 5

Page 41, Exercise 4

The pictures are quite similar in that they both show people who have chosen to study something specific. Another similarity is that judging by what they are studying, it may well be that the people in these pictures are feeling somewhat stressed because they might be facing difficulties in their studies. Medical studies are known to be long and hard, and it can be difficult for an elderly person to get the hang of computers and the Internet. But if you ask me, the similarities end there, and there are also a lot of differences. I think that the biggest contrast between them is what motivated these people to choose their courses of study.

UNIT 5

Page 41, Exercise 5

For a start, it's quite possible that the man in picture B was motivated by a feeling of isolation and a desire to overcome it. Looking at the picture, I get the impression that he is feeling a bit frustrated because everything is so unfamiliar to him. But I'm sure he keeps going because he knows it will help him do things like stay in touch with his family and access essential services like healthcare. On the other hand, I would guess the medical students in picture C feel anxious because they know they are facing a long and difficult course of study. However, most of them are probably also feeling quite satisfied with their choice. This is a highly motivated group – some because of the status and respect that the job brings and others from a sense of altruism.

UNIT 6

Page 49, Exercises 2 and 3

Student A: Shall we look at this one first? There are so many reasons why public transport can be annoying. For a start, buses and trains don't ever seem to run on time. This means you end up waiting for hours for your bus or train to arrive – which is so incredibly boring. Also, most people travel during rush hour, when the buses and trains are so overcrowded that you can almost never find a seat. That's probably the most irritating thing about it.

Student B: Really? Why do you say that? To me that's not nearly as infuriating as how expensive it is – we pay so much for an unreliable service. And if I could just relate to your point about not running on time, it's true that waiting is incredibly boring, but it's more than that. The delays can also be very disruptive to your day. Like the other day I missed my first lesson at school because of a late bus!

Student A: I know just what you mean about delays being disruptive. OK. So, let's move on to the next one, shall we?

UNIT 6

Page 49, Exercise 4

Student A: So, let's see if we can agree on which one to go with. I think we both feel that today, standing in long queues is mostly avoidable because you can do so many things online.

Student B: I think so too. Let's leave that one out then. And digital advertising is a bother, but you really can learn to ignore it, wouldn't you say?

Student A: Absolutely. I'm so used to digital ads that I don't even notice them any more. So we've agreed we can eliminate that one too. Which two do we have left?

Student B: Well, if we agree that transport delays may not affect everyone, it's between Internet problems and phone conversations in public.

UNIT 7

Page 57, Exercises 3 and 4

I'd like to open by saying that I am well aware that many young people today feel that studying the past is irrelevant in our rapidly changing world. However, I strongly disagree. In fact, in my opinion, it is precisely because of the rapid changes around us that a study of the past is important. For a start, it increases our knowledge of our country's traditions and culture and how they developed over the centuries. Another equally important point is that who we are as individuals is influenced by history. For instance, anyone who has lived through a momentous historical event, like war, will have been affected by such past experiences on a very personal level. My final point relates to the fact that studying the

history of other countries helps you understand other people and their culture, and this understanding can go a long way to bridging gaps between nations. When I travelled around Spain, having learned some Spanish history gave me a deeper appreciation of the country's people and their heritage. So on the whole, I feel that history definitely has a place in the school curriculum.

UNIT 8

Page 65, Exercise 2

Actually, I've never really thought about it before, but the fact is that people often move out to the suburbs because the communities there tend to be quite homogeneous. What I mean is residents of a particular suburban area are often of the same social class and cultural background. Let me give you an example. Let's say you emigrate to another country and are looking for a place to live. So, basically, you don't speak the language, your culture is different and you feel isolated. What I'm trying to say is that living in a suburb where there is a high concentration of people with a similar background would make life easier.

UNIT 8

Page 65, Exercise 3

That's a really relevant question for me! The thing is that my family recently moved from a village to the city and I'm so much happier now! For a start, there's no end of entertainment venues around here – I mean there are theatres, cinemas, restaurants and pubs everywhere. So my social life has really taken a turn for the better. I always seem to be meeting up with my friends to do something or other. At night, the atmosphere is so exciting and there's so much happening. And the best part is it's all so nearby. I can usually walk anywhere I want to get to, and if I can't get there on foot, I can always cycle. What I'm trying to say is that everything is so accessible!

UNIT 9

Page 73, Exercise 3

Let me open by saying that we strongly support the motion and believe these animals should never be kept as pets. Today, we will present three reasons why you should support it too.

The first is simply that these animals can be dangerous. Some are venomous, some bite and some may carry dangerous diseases like rabies. What's more, did you know that these pets are often operated on to make them safer – like having their claws removed? How cruel is that? This brings me to another important issue – that of animal rights. Many of these animals are sentient creatures. They have emotions and feel pain. As such, they surely have rights just as we humans have. By adopting these animals as pets, we violate many basic rights, such as the right not to suffer. We also exploit them for our own purposes and prevent them from living as they were meant to. Lastly, I would emphasise the cost of keeping such animals. Products for domesticated

animals like dogs and cats have competitive prices, but taking care of an exotic or wild animal can involve a great expense. When owners realise how expensive it is, a lot of them simply abandon the animals or have them put down.

So, to review, wild and exotic animals are clearly not suitable pets for several reasons. They pose a danger to humans, having them as pets violates their rights and the cost of keeping them as pets is so high that many of them are later abandoned.

In conclusion, the motion must stand.

UNIT 9

Page 73, Exercises 4 and 5

Before summing up, let me relate to points made by Team A's speaker. I would like to address the first argument that wild and exotic pets pose a risk to their owners and the public. The truth is that animals in the wild are more likely to be diseased or behave aggressively when confronted with humans than wild animals kept as pets. Rabies, for example, rarely occurs in wild animals kept as pets as they are vaccinated against it. The speaker also claimed that when owners of these pets realise the expense of caring for these animals, they often abandon them or have the vet put them down. That may be so, however, may I remind you of how many people abandon their dogs or cats and have them put down because it's a chore caring for them? No one would suggest that people not be allowed to have dogs or cats as pets.

To summarise our position, we maintain that as long as we treat our pets humanely, there is no reason for laws to dictate what pets we can have. Furthermore, a lot of these animals are endangered or simply more likely to die in the wild than when kept as pets and, finally, having wild animals or exotic pets gives us a wonderful opportunity to bond with them and learn from them. For these reasons, the motion must fall.

UNIT 10

Page 81, Exercise 3

One feature pictures B and C have in common is that they both show ways in which technology has dramatically changed our lives over the last century. The fact that today robotic technology is used in certain jobs has made many jobs safer and probably saved countless lives, for example, in operations. Robotics, especially in factories, has also increased production efficiency and certainly made products cheaper. Technological advances in shopping have affected our lives in a different way to robotics. Mostly, shopping has become more convenient. We can do our shopping from the comfort of our homes or while we're travelling on a bus or train and find the best deal. On the other hand, you'll probably have to wait in a long queue at the post office to collect your parcel. You may even have to pay for delivery, which can be expensive.

UNIT 10 **Page 81, Exercise 4**

Admittedly, it might be argued that technology has improved the world we live in. But it seems to me that there are drawbacks as well. While advances in technology have facilitated online shopping with its many benefits, thinking about it, I'd say that online shopping has also led to overspending. Many people are tempted by the ease of ordering online, and it causes them to buy things that they don't really need. When it comes to manufacturing, while some might claim that robotics and other technologies have helped the world economy, in my opinion, it's important to remember that the use of robotics on assembly lines has also meant an increase in unemployment, particularly among unskilled workers.